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Meſſieurs Scull & Boyd,

By inſerting the following Addreſs, &c. in your Gazette, you will much oblige a

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The ADDRESS and REASONS of Diſſent of the Minority of the Convention of the State of Pennſylvania to their Conſtituents.

IT was not until after the termination of the late glorious conteſt, which made the people of the United States an independent nation, that any defect was diſcovered in the preſent confederation. It was formed by ſome of the ableſt patriots in America. It carried us ſucceſsfully through the war; and the virtue and patriotiſm of the people, with their diſpoſition to promote the common cauſe, ſupplied the want of power in Congreſs.

The requiſition of Congreſs for the five per cent. impoſt was made before the peace, ſo early as the firſt of February, 1781, but was prevented taking effect by the refuſal of one ſtate; yet it is probable every ſtate in the union would have agreed to this meaſure at that period, had it not been for the extravagant terms in which it was demanded. The requiſition was new moulded in the year 1783, and accompanied with an additional demand of certain ſupplementary funds for 25 years. Peace had now taken place, and the United States found themſelves labouring under a conſiderable foreign and domeſtic debt, incurred during the war. The requiſition of 1783, was commenſurate with the intereſt of the debt as it was then calculated; but it has been more accurately aſcertained ſince that time. The domeſtic debt has been found to fall ſeveral millions of dollars ſhort of the calculation, and it has lately been conſiderably diminiſhed by large ſales of the weſtern lands. The ſtates have been called on by Congreſs annually for ſupplies until the general ſyſtem of finance propoſed in 1783 ſhould take place.

It was at this time that the want of an efficient federal government was firſt complained of, and that the powers veſted in Congreſs were found to be inadequate to the procuring of the benefits that ſhould reſult from the union. The impoſt was granted by moſt of the ſtates, but many refuſed the ſupplementary funds; the annual requiſitions were ſet at nought, by ſome of the ſtates, while others complied with them by legiſlative acts, but were tardy in their payments, and Congreſs found themſelves incapable of complying with their engagements, and ſupporting the federal government. It was found that our national character was ſinking in the opinion of foreign nations. The Congreſs could make treaties of commerce, but could not enforce the obſervance of them. We were ſuffering from the reſtrictions of foreign nations, who had ſhackled our commerce, while we were unable to retaliate; and all now agreed that it would be advantageous to the union to enlarge the powers of Congreſs; that they ſhould be enabled in the ampleſt manner to regulate commerce, and to lay and collect duties on the imports throughout the United States. With this view, a convention was firſt propoſed by Virginia, and finally recommended by Congreſs for the different ſtates to appoint deputies to meet in convention, "for the purpoſes of reviſing and amending the preſent articles of confederation ſo as to make them adequate to the exigencies of the union." This recommendation the legiſlatures of twelve ſtates complied with ſo haſtily as not to conſult their conſtituents on the ſubject; and though the different legiſlatures had no authority from their conſtituents for the purpoſe, they probably apprehended the neceſſity would juſtify the meaſure; and none of them extended their ideas at that time, further than "reviſing and amending the preſent articles of confederation." Pennſylvania by the act appointing deputies expreſſly confined their powers to this object; and though it is probable that ſome of the members of aſſembly of this ſtate, had at that time in contemplation to annihilate the preſent confederation, as well as the conſtitution of Pennſylvania, yet the plan was not ſufficiently matured to communicate it to the public.

The majority of the legiſlature of this commonwealth, were at that time under the influence of the members from the city of Philadelphia. They agreed that the deputies ſent by them to convention ſhould have no compenſation for their ſervices, which, determination was calculated to prevent the election of any member who reſided at a diſtance from the city. It was in vain for the minority to attempt electing delegates to the convention, who underſtood the circumſtances and the feelings of the people, and had a common intereſt with them. They found a diſpoſition in the leaders of the majority of the houſe to chuſe themſelves and ſome of their dependents. The minority attempted to prevent this by agreeing to vote for ſome of the leading members, who they knew had influence enough to be appointed at any rate, in hopes of carrying with them ſome reſpectable citizens of Philadelphia, in whoſe principles and integrity they could have had more confidence; but even in this they were diſappointed, except in one member: the eighth member was added at a ſubſequent ſeſſion of the aſſembly.

The continental convention met in the city of Philadelphia at the time appointed. It was compoſed of ſome men of excellent characters; of others who were more remarkable for their ambition and cunning than their patriotiſm; and of ſome who had been opponents to the independence of the United States. The delegates from Pennſylvania were, ſix of them, uniform and decided opponents to the conſtitution of this commonwealth. The convention ſat upwards of four months. The doors were kept ſhut, and the members brought under the moſt ſolemn engagements of ſecrecy.† Some of thoſe who oppoſed their going ſo far beyond their powers, retired; hopeleſs, from the convention, others had the firmneſs to refuſe ſigning the plan altogether; and many who did ſign it, did it not as a ſyſtem they wholly approved, but as the beſt that could be then obtained, and notwithſtanding the time ſpent on this ſubject, it is agreed on all hands to be a work of haſte and accommodation.

Whilſt the gilded chains were forging in the ſecret conclave, the meaner inſtruments of deſpotiſm, without, were buſily employed in alarming the fears of the people, with dangers that did not exiſt, and exciting their hopes of greater advantages from the expected plan than even the beſt government on earth could produce.

The propoſed plan had not many hours iſſued forth from the womb of ſuſpicious ſecrecy, until ſuch as were prepared for the purpoſe, were carrying about petitions for people to ſign, ſignifying their approbation of the ſyſtem, and requeſting the legiſlature to call a convention. While every meaſure was taken to intimidate the people againſt oppoſing it, the public papers teemed with the moſt violent threats againſt thoſe who ſhould dare to think for themſelves and *tar and feathers* were liberally promiſed to all thoſe who would not immediately join in ſupporting the propoſed government be it what it would. Under ſuch circumſtances petitions in favor of calling a convention were ſigned by great numbers in and about the city, before they had leiſure to read and examine the ſyſtem, many of whom, now they are better acquainted with it, and have had time to inveſtigate its principles, are heartily oppoſed to it. The petitions were ſpeedily handed to the legiſlature.

Affairs were in this ſituation, when on the 28th of September laſt, a reſolution was propoſed to the aſſembly by a member of the houſe, who had been alſo a member of the federal convention, for calling a ſtate convention, to be elected within *ten* days, for the purpoſe of examing and adopting the propoſed conſtitution of the United States, though at this time the houſe had not received it from Congreſs. This attempt was oppoſed by a minority, who after offering every argument in their power to prevent the precipitate meaſure, without effect, abſented themſelves from the houſe, as the only alternative left them, to prevent the meaſure taking place previous to their conſtituents being acquainted with the buſineſs. That violence and outrage which had been ſo often threatened was now practiſed; ſome of the members were ſeized the next day by a mob collected for the purpoſe, and forcibly dragged to the houſe, and there detained by force whilſt the quorum of the legiſlature, *ſo formed*, compleated their reſolution.

† The Journals of the conclave are ſtill concealed.

We ſhall dwell no longer on this ſubject, the people of Pennſylvania have been already acquainted therewith. We would only further obſerve, that every member of the legiſlature, previouſly to taking his ſeat, by ſolemn oath or affirmation, declares, "that he will not do or conſent to any act or thing whatever that ſhall have a tendency to leſſen or abridge their rights and privileges, as declared in the conſtitution of this ſtate." And that conſtitution which they are ſo ſolemnly ſworn to ſupport cannot legally be altered but by a recommendation of the council of cenſors, who alone are authoriſed to propoſe alterations and amendments, and even theſe muſt be publiſhed at leaſt *ſix months*, for the conſideration of the people. The propoſed ſyſtem of government for the United States, if adopted, will alter and may annihilate the conſtitution of Pennſylvania; and therefore the legiſlature had no authority whatever to recommend the calling a convention for that purpoſe. This proceeding could not be conſidered as binding on the people of this commonwealth. The houſe was formed by violence, ſome of the members compoſing it were detained there by force, which alone would have vitiated any proceedings, to which they were otherwiſe competent; but had the legiſlature been legally formed, this buſineſs was abſolutely without their power.

In this ſituation of affairs were the ſubſcribers elected members of the convention of Pennſylvania. A convention called in direct violation of their duty, and compoſed in part of members, who were compelled to attend for that purpoſe, to conſider of a conſtitution propoſed by a convention of the United States, who were not appointed for the purpoſe of framing a new form of government, but whoſe powers were expreſſly confined to altering and amending the preſent articles of confederation. Therefore, the members of the continental convention, in propoſing the plan, acted as individuals, and not as deputies from Pennſylvania.† The aſſembly who called the ſtate convention acted as individuals, and not as the legiſlature of Pennſylvania; nor could they or the convention choſen on their recommendation have authority to do any act or thing, that can alter or annihilate the conſtitution of Pennſylvania (both of which will be done by the new conſtitution) nor are their proceedings in our opinion, at all binding on the people.

The election for members of the convention was held at ſo early a period, and the want of information was ſo great, that ſome of us did not know of it until after it was over, and we have reaſon to believe that great numbers of the people of Pennſylvania have not yet had an opportunity of ſufficiently examining the propoſed conſtitution. We apprehend that no change can take place that will affect the internal government or conſtitution of this commonwealth, unleſs a majority of the people ſhould evidence a wiſh for ſuch a change; but on examining the number of votes given for members of the preſent ſtate convention, we find that of upwards of *ſeventy thouſand* freemen who are entitled to vote in Pennſylvania, the whole convention has been elected by about *thirteen thouſand* voters, and though *two thirds* of the members of the convention have thought proper to ratify the propoſed conſtitution, yet thoſe *two thirds* were elected by the votes of only *ſix thouſand and eight hundred* freemen.

In the city of Philadelphia and ſome of the eaſtern counties, the junto that took the lead in the buſineſs agreed to vote for none but ſuch as would ſolemnly promiſe to adopt the ſyſtem in toto, without exerciſing their judgement. In many of the counties the people did not attend the elections as they had not an

† The continental convention in direct violation of the 13th article of confederation, have declared, "that the ratification of nine ſtates ſhall be ſufficient for the eſtabliſhment of this conſtitution, between the ſtates ſo ratifying the ſame." Thus has the plighted faith of the ſtates been ſported with! They had ſolemnly engaged that the confederation now ſubſiſting ſhould be inviolably preſerved by each of them; and the union thereby formed, ſhould be perpetual, unleſs the ſame ſhould be altered by mutual conſent.

opportunity of judging of the plan. Others did not conſider themſelves bound by the call of a ſet of men who aſſembled at the ſtate houſe in Philadelphia, and aſſumed the name of the legiſlature of Pennſylvania; and ſome were prevented from voting by the violence of the party who were determined at all events to force down the meaſure. To ſuch lengths did the tools of deſpotiſm carry their outrage, that in the night of the election for members of convention, in the city of Philadelphia, ſeveral of the ſubſcribers, being then in the city to tranſact your buſineſs; were groſſly abuſed, ill-treated, and inſulted while they were quiet in their lodging, though they did not interfere, nor had any thing to do with the ſaid election, but, as they apprehend, becauſe they were ſuppoſed to be adverſe to the propoſed conſtitution, and would not tamely ſurrender thoſe ſacred rights, which you had committed to their charge.

The convention met, and the ſame diſpoſition was ſoon manifeſted in conſidering the propoſed conſtitution, that had been exhibited in every other ſtage of the buſineſs. We were prohibited by an expreſs vote of the convention, from taking any queſtion on the ſeparate articles of the plan, and reduced to the neceſſity of adopting or rejecting in toto: 'Tis true the majority permitted us to debate on each article, but reſtrained us from propoſing amendments. They alſo determined not to permit us to enter on the minutes our reaſons of diſſent againſt any of the articles, nor even on the final queſtion our reaſons of diſſent againſt the whole. Thus ſituated we entered on the examination of the propoſed ſyſtem of government, and found it to be ſuch as we could not adopt, without, as we conceived, ſurrendering up your deareſt rights. We offered our objections to the convention, and oppoſed thoſe parts of the plan, which, in our opinion, would be injurious to you, in the beſt manner we were able; and cloſed our arguments, by offering the following propoſitions to the convention.

First. The right of conſcience ſhall be held inviolable; and neither the legiſlative, executive nor judicial powers of the United States, ſhall have authority to alter, abrogate or infringe any part of the conſtitution of the ſeveral ſtates, which provide for the preſervation of liberty in matters of religion.

Second. That in controverſies reſpecting property, and in ſuits between man and man, trial by jury, ſhall remain as heretofore, as well in the federal courts, as in thoſe of the ſeveral ſtates.

Third. That in all capital and criminial proſecutions, a man has a right to demand the cauſe and nature of his accuſation, as well in the federal courts, as in thoſe of the ſeveral ſtates: to be heard by himſelf and his counſel; to be confronted with the accuſers and witneſſes: to call for evidence in his favor, and a ſpeedy trial by an impartial jury of his vicinage, without whoſe unanimous conſent, he cannot be found guilty, nor can he be compelled to give evidence againſt himſelf; and that no man be deprived of his liberty, except by the law of the land or the judgment of his peers.

Fourth. That exceſſive bail ought not to be required, nor exceſſive fines impoſed, nor cruel nor unuſual puniſhments inflicted.

Fifth. That warrants unſupported by evidence, whereby any officer or meſſenger may be commanded or required to ſearch ſuſpected places, or to ſeize any perſon or perſons, his or their property, not particularly deſcribed, are grievous and oppreſſive, and ſhall not be granted either by the magiſtrates or the federal government or others.

Sixth. That the people have a right to the freedom of ſpeech, of writing and publiſhing their ſentiments, therefore, the freedom of the preſs ſhall not be reſtrained by any law of the United States.

Seventh, That the people have a right to bear arms in defence of themſelves and their own ſtate, or the United ſtates, or for the purpoſe of killing game, and no law ſhall be paſſed for diſarming the people or any of them, unleſs for crimes committed, or real danger of public injury from individuals; and as ſtanding armies in the time of peace are dangerous to liberty, they ought not to be kept up, and that the military ſhall be kept under ſtrict ſubordination to and be governed by the civil powers.

(Continued in the fourth page.)

Foreign Intelligence.

DUBLIN, October 9.

Dublin Caſtle, October 1, 1787.

IT is his grace the lord lieutenant's pleaſure, that all officers belonging to the regiments of cavalry and infantry now ſerving in this kingdom, except ſuch as are employed on the recruiting ſervice, do join their reſpective corps without delay; and it is his grace's further pleaſure, that all officers belonging to any of the garriſons in this kingdom, do repair to their reſpective poſts immediately.

By his Grace's command,
Charles Francis Sheridan.

War Office, Dublin Caſtle, October 4, 1787.

The commanding officers of the ſeveral recruiting parties belonging to regiments upon the Britiſh or Iriſh eſtabliſhments, now ſerving abroad, are hereby directed to ſend returns of the reſpective ſtations, and the ſtate of their parties, to Charles Francis Sheridan, Eſquire, War Office, Dublin Caſtle.

LONDON, Sept. 22.

Laſt Saturday, at ten o'clock in the morning, Thomas Stone was carried from Tothillfields Bridewell, to Bedlam, when he underwent a final examination before Mr Nepean, under ſecretary of ſtate, Mr. Bond, one of the Bowſtreet juſtices, and the committee who tranſacted the buſineſs of the hoſpital. He at firſt imagined that Macmanus was taking him to Newgate, but on approaching Moorfields, he ſoon recognized the ſcene, and mentioned the place of his deſtination. Being introduced through the rear of the building, he viewed with much earneſtneſs the lofty walls by which he was ſurrounded, and then ſaid, "Aye, this is enough to make a man mad indeed!" The papers which had been in the care of Macmanus were put into the hands of Dr. Munro, and the other gentlemen preſent, but the unfortunate man ſoon precluded the neceſſity of all formal enquiries, by openly avowing his paſſion for the princeſs royal. He ſaid, "he was acquainted with his fate; that he felt not for himſelf, but for the object of his paſſion, and that he was well convinced that her royal highneſs, from her ſenſibility and attachment, was in a ſituation equally lamentable with his own." He was then ſent to the apartments appointed for him, and which in all probability he will not quit during his life. On his way through the gallery, he aſked repeatedly where Margaret Nicholſon was lodged, and expreſſed a ſtrong inclination to ſee her. Inſtructions, we are aſſured, were given that the unhappy man ſhould be treated with the utmoſt humanity.

The following are lines written by Thomas Stone, which, at the time of the examination, were ſubmitted to the critical examination of Dr. Munro, and which Stone acknowledged to be his production:

To her Highneſs the Princeſs Royal.

Thrice glad were I to be your willing ſlave,
But not the captive of the tool or knave;
With woe on woe, you melt my ſighing breaſt,
Whilſt you reject your humble worſhipper's reſt.

T S.

It is not a little ſingular that the preſent royal family ſhould be ſo peculiarly ſelected as objects either of the vengeance or the attachment of phrenzy. Beſide the preſent inſtance, and that of Margaret Nicholſon, there is now in Bedlam a young woman by no means uncomely in her perſon, whoſe lunacy has fixed on the prince of Wales as the object of its affection. Her ſole employment conſiſts of forming plumes of different coloured paper, in imitation of the creſt of his royal highneſs. Every ſtep ſhe hears ſhe fancies he is approaching to deliver her, and then upbraids her keepers with cruelty in preventing his acceſs.

And to complete this catalogue of ſingularities, no longer ſince than laſt week, a ſmart chambermaid belonging to an inn in Holborn, became enamoured to diſtraction of his royal highneſs the duke of York, whom ſhe ſaw at the head of his regiment, in one of the late reviews. This paſſion, "like the worm in the bud, feeds on her damaſk cheeks." She proclaims it to every perſon who approaches her; but as ſhe has not told it to any perſon officially concerned, ſhe is properly ſuffered to remain in the care of her friends.

Oct. 9, Letters from Verſailles, by yeſterday's mail, bring the extraordinary intelligence, that the Port has not ſhewn more regard to the court of Vienna, than to that of Ruſſia; for that the baron de Herbert, internuncio of the emperor at Conſtantinople, has been ſent to the Seven Towers. The conſequence of this ſtep will be, that the court of France will be obliged to join all her forces to repulſe the aggreſſion of the Turks: thus much is certain, that the Imperial troops, that were marching towards Bavaria, have received orders to retrograde, and proceed to Hungaria.

Proper veſſels are ſtationed in the channel to take the ſeamen out of all the ſhips which are daily expected from the Weſt-Indies.

Narrative of the Eſcape of the Counteſs Valois de la Motte out of the Baſtile, written by herſelf.

THE counteſs is perhaps the firſt and only priſoner who ever could find the way out of that place of confinement. The peculiar conſtruction of the building, the number of gates, and the watchful guards always on the watch, precluded all probability of a return to the world. But what cannot be effected with the aſſiſtance of friends in power, and of money?

For ſeveral months before the counteſs was in poſſeſſion of the neceſſary apparatus; but the private inſtructions ſhe received from time, and the daily expectation ſhe was in of receiving ſeveral papers indiſpenſible for her juſtification, obliged her to put off the much wiſhed for event.

At laſt the happy day arrived, and ſhe gave the faithful Maria Anne, her woman, every neceſſary inſtruction, not wiſhing to have her as a companion through the windings of the infernal labyrinth, leſt that perſon, being univerſally known, ſhould occaſion a fatal diſcovery. The counteſs agreed upon a place of meeting, dreſſed herſelf in man's clothes, cut the fore part of her hair in the ſhape uſually worn by jockies in Paris; and, thus equipped, her head buried as it were in a large round hat, half boots on her legs, and a ſmall ſwitch in her hand, ſhe boldly ventured forth, reſolved, and being armed for that purpoſe, to die rather than be taken.

After having opened and ſhut after her ſeven different gates, ſhe at laſt reached an immenſe yard filled with ſiſters, or they call the female Cerberi of the place. She addreſſed herſelf to one of them, and diſguiſing both her voice and pronunciation, put a piece of gold in her hand, inquiring for her way to the chapel, where ſhe arrived at laſt, after paying proper tolls at all the other gates. Leſt ſhe ſhould be known to ſome of the ſiſterhood, ſhe mixed as faſt ſhe could with a numerous company of viſitors then buſy in viewing what curioſities there were to be ſeen. With the whole group ſhe was conveyed by one of the ſiſters to the outward gate called Parte des Champs. There ſhe met her good Maria Anne, took boat with her, and croſſed to the oppoſite ſhore.

Notwithſtanding her enfeebled ſtate, the counteſs had ſtrength enough to walk as far as Charenton, about ſix miles. They then got into a cart, which carried them three leagues further. It was impoſſible, nay dangerous for the two travellers to attempt getting a convenient carriage, and therefore they travelled again on foot the ſpace of twenty miles. Worn out with fatigue, their feet in a moſt deplorable condition, they were glad to put up at a miſerable public houſe on the road, and there reſt the whole night.

The next day they mounted a dung cart, which was going four leagues up the country. There they met with ſome good natured waggoners, who gave them a caſt. The counteſs, being apprehenſive, leſt ſhe ſhould be traced, and her dreſs deſcribed, bought in the firſt place they ſtopped at, the ſimple dreſs of a country girl. The only remaining difficulty was to effect the transformation. For this purpoſe, ſhe left the town where ſhe had thus provided herſelf, walked on about three leagues, and then leaving the high road, retired behind a hill, and there changed her clothes, hiding amongſt the brambles her manly accoutrements. She then reſumed her pedeſtrian journey. Among numberleſs fatigues, and much anxiety, avoiding the large towns, putting up at the moſt wretched hovels, travelling ſometimes in carts, oftener on foot; compelled through the inhumanity of a publican, who would not open his door after twelve o'clock, to paſs a whole hour on the naked earth in Colomby Foreſt, near Luxemburgh; and from thence a ſmall village called Hoirich, where they remained ſix weeks, under the aſſumed name of Mademoiſelle de Dulain, at one Madame Chiz's, who treated her in every reſpect with ſo much humanity, as muſt forever engage her utmoſt gratitude.

No ſooner was the count, her huſband appriſed of her retreat, than he diſpatched after her a truſty perſon, to bring her over to London; where ſhe arrived on Saturday the 4th inſt. (Aug. 1787.)

American Occurrences.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 8.

THE reaſon given by Spain for refuſing to open the Miſſiſſippi is, that Weſt Florida was a conquered country, by that nation, and therefore the court of Great Britain had no right to inſert in the treaty of peace with the United States the following clauſe: "Article VIII. The navigation of the Miſſiſſippi from its ſource to the ocean, ſhall forever remain free and open to the ſubjects of Great Britain and the citizens of America."

When Mr. Jay was at Madrid, he had a commiſſion from congreſs to offer an excluſive navigation of the Miſſiſſippi for fifty years, provided Spain would vigorouſly aſſiſt America; that court took ſome time to conſider this propoſition that, in the mean time, Lord Cornwallis ſurrendered: a victory ſo fortunate to America, gave a new turn [illegible]

ties, and congreſs therefore immediately diſpatched a meſſenger to their ambaſſador, ſignifying their pleaſure that the matter ſhould be ſuſpended.

SAVANNAH, Nov. 8.

Letters from Effingham repreſent the inhabitants of that county ſettled on great Ogechee river to be in a moſt deplorable ſituation from their being expoſed to the ravages of the Indians. On Wedneſday the 21ſt ult. a man named Serman and his ſon were killed and ſcalped on Scull's creek, near Mizell's ferry Next day a ſcouting party buried the dead, and diſcovered eight Indians near the place. Three men and a boy are miſſing from the ſame neighbourhood, who are alſo ſuppoſed to be killed. Moſt of the ſettlers on the ſouth ſide of the river and ſome on the north have moved off in the utmoſt diſtreſs towards South Carolina.

We hear that on Sunday laſt a man was fired upon and ſlightly wounded, near the fort at Canouchie, about twenty-ſix miles from this town.

PORTSMOUTH, Dec. 12.

It with real pleaſure that we can announce the ſentiments of his excellency preſident Sullivan, to be perfectly federal. He has been heard to expreſs himſelf in near the following terms, that although he did not doubt New Hampſhire ſingly conſidered, might have framed a better conſtitution for themſelves, yet when the whole of the thirteen ſtates were conſidered: that it was to unite them, jarring intereſts, in politics and prejudices, he was bold to ſay, it was one of the beſt ſyſtems of government that ever was deviſed; and that all the objections which have been raiſed againſt it are no more than what might be brought againſt any form of government whatever.

The general aſſembly of the ſtate of Vermont have appointed the honorable Ira Allen, Iſaac Tichenor, and Noah Smith, eſqrs. agents to the hon. Congreſs of the United States.

BOSTON, Dec. 6

The male inhabitants of this town of twenty one years of age and upwards, are to meet to-morrow, at Fanueil-hall for the purpoſe of chooſing "delegates to meet in convention, at the ſtate houſe, in this town, in the ſecond Wedneſday in January next, for the purpoſe of aſſenting to and ratifying the conſtitution agreed upon by the late federal convention, agreeably to the reſolution of Congreſs and the general court of this commonwealth."

SALEM. Dec. 4.

Yeſterday morning a party of thirty men, employed by the directors of the Ohio Company, ſet out for the Weſtern country, under the direction of major Haſſield White, in order to begin a ſettlement on the Ohio river, at the confluence of the Muſkingum. Another party conſiſting of a larger number, are to march from Hartford, who will join them at Pittſburg. General Rufus Putnam is appointed to ſuperintend this ſettlement.

NEW-BRUNSWICK, Dec. 25.

On Wedneſday the nineteenth inſt. the delegates of the convention, attended by the principal inhabitants of Trenton, and a handſome well diſciplined company of light infantry in uniform, under the command of capt. Hanlon, proceeded from the convention chamber to the court houſe, where the ratification of the new conſtitution was publicly announced, and received by a great number of citizens collected on the occaſion with general approbation, which was expreſſed by repeated huzzas. The company of light infantry fired thirteen rounds; one for the ſtate of Delaware, and another for Pennſylvania. After which the convention returned in the ſame proceſſion to their chamber, in order to complete the great and important buſineſs of their appointment, and the day following diſſolved.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 29.

A correſpondet informed us, that a gentleman who has juſt returned from a tour through the ſtates of Maryland and Virginia, ſays that he was repeatedly aſſured, that there would not be a diſſenting voice in the convention of Maryland againſt the new conſtitution; and that at leaſt nineteen twentieths of the yeomanry of Virginia are on the ſide of gen. Waſhington, the man of the people, in favor of the new government. He adds further, that the Nabobs or great men, (falſely ſo called) of Virginia, are its only enemies.

If any judgment could be formed from the papers publiſhed in the different ſtates we ſhould be led to conclude that the adoption of the propoſed conſtitution would be general, except in the ſtate of New-York; but when we conſider that Pennſylvania, the ſecond to adopt it, was the firſt and moſt clamorous to oppoſe it, there can be no dependence upon this criterion.

On Saturday laſt about ten o'clock at night as capt. Kelly and Mrs. Tingey were paſſing the vacant lot in Front, near South ſtreet, they were aſſaulted by four men, who demanded their money, with threats of inſtant death, if any attempt was made to eſcape, or alarm the neighbourhood. Capt. Kelly declaring that he had earned his money with too much difficulty to give it to ſuch villains, he was inſtantly knocked down, and one of the gang, leading Mrs. Tingey ſome diſtance from capt. Kelly, held a knife to her throat, but aſſured her that ſhe ſhould not be injured unleſs ſhe made a noiſe. Capt. Kelly recovering from the blow he had received, made ſuch bold reſiſtance, that the man who watched Mrs. Tingey obſerving his three companions almoſt routed, flew to their aſſiſtance and gave the lady an opportunity to ſeek for ſhelter in an adjoining houſe. As ſoon as they perceived Mrs Tingey's eſcape the villains again knocked Capt. Kelly down, and made off, but in the ſcuffle dropt the Captains watch, which they had with great difficulty forced from him. Theſe men did not appear to be very expert in their iniquitous trade, they ſpoke with conſiderable agitation, and, though all armed with bayonets or knives they made no further uſe of them notwithſtanding the courageous oppoſition they had met, than to give capt. Kelly a ſlight cut on the hand, and another on the arm.

Pittſburgh, January 26.

The following is a liſt of the members who withdrew from the late continental convention, previous to the ſigning of the propoſed conſtitution, viz. Gerry, Strong, Maſſachuſetts; Elſworth, Connecticut; Yates, Yancy, New-York; Martin, Maryland; Randolph, Maſon, Virginia.

On the 12th of November, Congreſs elected the honorable Thomas Jefferſon, miniſter plenipotentiary to reſide at the court of France; his commiſſion is to continue for the term of three years, unleſs ſooner revoked by Congreſs.

What has become of the paper money? aſks a correſpondent, who remembers when it was ſlandered and rejected by every body. It now appears for what reaſon it was depreciated; and the ſtrong box of many a man who formerly reprobated it, could a tale unfold, whoſe lighteſt word would ſound of ſpeculation.

The RETORT COURTEOUS.

A Country Hodge through Boſton town
His plodding footſteps bent,
A bell rope handle drew his eye,
But knew not what it meant.
With vacant ſtare he ſtupid ſtood,
And view'd at all around,
A wag that paſs'd his arm pull'd back,
So cauſ'd the bell to ſound.
Quick to the door the maſter came,
Saying, ſir, your wants declare?
None, ſaid Hodge. Then tell me friend,
What countryman you are?
Why, if I needs muſt tell as much,
From Taunton firſt I came,
To ſee the ſights in this large town;
And Hodge, ſir, is my name.
I thought as much the cit replied,
Then gave a hearty laugh;
For do but beat a country buſh,
And lo! out ſtarts a calf.
It may be ſo, Hodge quickly ſaid,
There's ſights in every place;
For at a Boſton door once ring,
Out pops a cuckold's face.

BON MOT.

WHEN Fontenelle was very old, a phyſician was one day maintaining that coffee was a ſlow poiſon. "Very ſlow, indeed," replied Fontenelle, "for I have drank it every day theſe eighty years."

BY, virtue of the commonwealth writ of venditioni exponas to me directed, will be ſold at public vendue in the town of Waſhington, on Tueſday the 5th day of February next, a tract of land ſituate on the ſouth branch of King's creek, in Smith townſhip in the county of Waſhington, adjoining lands of John Bleazer, William M'Laughlin and others, containing 300 acres, be the ſame more or leſs, which was ſeized and taken in execution as the property of Samuel Johnſon, and to be ſold by

JAMES MARSHEL,
late ſheriff W. C.

Jan. 16, 1788

Meſſrs. Printers,

BEING in your town the other day, I found a number of people huddled together at a public corner, attending to one who, from the loudneſs of his voice, appeared to be zealouſly affected with his ſubject. I drew near, and found he was entertaining his audence with what he called tricks, ſometimes defects, and at other times faults, in the conſtitution now before the public for their conſideration. Tricks, defects, faults, exclaimed I, hanging down my head. A form of government framed by a Waſhington, a Franklin, &c. &c. to which they themſelves and their deareſt connections are to be ſubjected, replete with tricks, defects, faults! Theſe thoughts ſuddenly drew me into the following apoſtrophe. O! Waſhington, why didſt thou not practiſe thy tricks upon us when it was year after year, in thy power, and when thou couldſt eaſily have availed thyſelf of all the gold and honors a Britiſh monarch could beſtow? Or, if thou wouldſt not ſell the country into the hands of foreigners (is it not better to rule than to ſerve in ſlavery) couldſt thou not have taken it to thyſelf, and diſtributed thy favours among thy truſty bands, who waited but the nod of Waſhington, to crown thee with regal power? And who but muſt have bowed thee knee, and cried 'God ſave the king?' Strange infatuation! After refuſing every thing 'the world calls good or great,' thou art now found leagued with the enemies of thy country, to deſtroy thoſe ſacred liberties which coſt thee ſo dear? And art thou--here my ſentence was broken off, and the current of my thoughts turned, by one who, pulling me by the ſleeve; whiſpered me, that our ſagacious developer of tricks, defects, faults, in the propoſed conſtitution, was amazingly involved in debt!

The world is naturally averſe
To all the truth it ſees or hears;
But ſwallows nonſenſe or a lie,
With greedineſs and gluttony. Hudibras.

ALL perſons indebted to the ſubſcriber are requeſted to call and diſcharge the ſame, as he intends leaving the place where he now lives, very ſhortly, and thoſe he ſtands indebted to are requeſted to call to have their accounts ſettled.

ÆNEAS M'CALLISTER.

Jan. 23, 1788.

SECRETARY's OFFICE.

Philadelphia, December 18, 1787.

NOTICE is hereby given to all perſons deſirous of contracting for opening and making good the road lately ſurveyed from Frankſtown branch of Juniata in Bedford county, to Conemaugh in the county of Weſtmoreland, and from thence down the ſouth ſide of ſaid river, to the mouth of the Loyalhannon; that propoſals for making the road will be received at the office aforeſaid, until the firſt day of April next.

CHARLES BIDDLE, Secretary.

This road is to be fifty feet in width, except in ſuch places as require digging, where it is to be only twelve feet.

IN COUNCIL,

Philadelphia, December 22, 1787.

WHEREAS diverſ inhabitants of the county of Bedford, have prayed that the ſtate highway, appointed by act of aſſembly of the 25th of September, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, may be confirmed and made good: And Whereas the monies appropriated by the ſaid act of aſſembly, are inſufficient for making the ſaid road ſixty feet wide as the law directs, and council being deſirous of complying with the ſaid requeſt as far as the money appropriated will admit; therefore,

Ordered, That ſuch part of the ſaid road as leads from this ſide of Sideling Hill to the oppoſite ſide of Ray's Hill, in the county of Bedford, be cleared and made good and ſufficient, to be twelve feet wide on the ſides of the hills, or among the rocks, and not leſs than twenty feet wide on the other ground, and room to be made for not leſs than three waggons to draw off to the one ſide, in the narrow places, at convenient diſtance for others to paſs by, and the waters to run next to the hill ſide.

Ordered, That public notice be given that propoſals for doing the aforeſaid work, will be received at the Secretary's Office in Philadelphia, until the day of April next.

Extract from the Minutes,

JAMES

For Charles Bid

Ninth. That the inhabitants of the several states shall have liberty to fowl and hunt in seasonable times, on the lands they hold, and on all other lands in the United States not inclosed, and in like manner to fish in all nuvigable waters, and others not private property, without being restrained therein by any laws to be passed by the legislature of the United States.

Ninth. That no law shall be passed to restrain the legislatures of the several states, from enacting laws for imposing taxes, except imposts and duties on goods imported, and that no taxes, except imposts and duties on goods imported and exported, and postage on letters, shall be levied by the authority of Congress.

Tenth. That the house of representatives be properly increased in number; that elections shall remain free; that the several states shall have power to regulate the elections for senators and representatives, without being controuled either directly or indirectly by any interference on the part of the Congress; and that the elections of representatives be annual.

Eleventh. That the power of organising, arming and disciplining the militia (the manner of disciplining the militia to be prescribed by Congress) remain with the individual states, and that Congress shall not have authority to call or march any of the militia out of their own state, without the consent of such state, and for such length of time only as such state shall agree.

That the sovereignty, freedom and independency of the several states shall be retained, and every power, jurisdiction and right, which is not by this constitution expressly delegated to the United States in Congress assembled.

Twelfth. That the legislative, executive, and judicial powers be kept separate; and to this end, that a constitutional council be appointed, to advise and assist the president, who shall be responsible for the advice they give, hereby the senators would be relieved from almost constant attendance; and also that the judges be made compleatly independent.

Thirteenth. That no treaty which shall be directly opposed to the existing laws of the United States in Congress assembled, shall be valid until such laws shall be repealed or made conformable to such treaty: neither shall any treaties be valid which are in contradiction to the constitution of the United States, or the constitutions of the several states.

Fourteenth That the judiciary power of the United States shall be confined to cases affecting ambassadors other public ministers and consuls; to cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; to controversies to which the United States shall be a party; to controversies between two or more states; between a state and citizens of different states; between citizens claiming lands under grants of different states, and between a state or the citizens thereof and foreign states; and in criminal cases to such only as are expressly enumerated in the constitution, and that the United States in Congress assembled, shall not have power to enact laws, which shall alter the laws of descents and distribution of the effects of deceased persons, the titles of land or goods, or the regulation of contracts in the individual states.

After reading these propositions, we declared our willingness to agree to the plan, provided it was so amended as to meet these propositions, or something similar to them: and finally moved the convention to adjourn, to give the people of Pennsylvania time to consider the subject, and determine for themselves: but these were all rejected, and the final vote was taken, when our duty to you induced us to vote against the proposed plan, and to decline signing the ratification of the same.

During the discussion we met with many insults, and some personal abuse; we were not even treated with decency, during the sitting of the convention, by the persons in the gallery of the house; however we flatter ourselves that in contending for the preservation of those invaluable rights you have tho't proper to commit to our charge, we acted with a spirit becoming freemen, and being desirous that you might know the principles which actuated our conduct, and being prohibited from inserting our reasons of dissent on the minutes of the convention, we have subjoined them for your consideration, as to you alone we are accountable. It remains with you whether you will think those inestimable privileges, which you have so ably contended for, should be sacrificed at the shrine of despotism, or whether you mean to contend for them with the same spirit that has so often baffled the attempts of an aristocratic faction, to rivet the shackles of slavery on you, and your unborn posterity.

To be continued in our next.

WANTED as an Apprentice to the HATTING BUSINESS, a LAD of about 14 years of age. Any person inclining to confide to the above business, may apply to,

M. CURTIS.

Pittsburgh, Jan. 14, 1788.

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, living on Moon Run, near the mouth of Chartiers Creek, early last fall, A Black MARE, about 13 hands high, 6 or 7 years old, branded on the near shoulder and buttock I. C. The owner is desired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take her away.

JAMES SPIERS,

Washington Connty, Jan. 14, 1788.

TO BE LET,

And entered on the first of April.

A COMMODIOUS House, thirty three feet square, two stories high, with four rooms on each floor, four of which are fire rooms, a kitchen twenty feet by seventeen, an extensive cellar, with a passage door in each front, and a double stable, with stalls for ten horses, the whole will be well finished, and pailed in in the neatest manner, and painted. This house is situated either for pleasure or business, as it stands on an elevated situation, the upper apartments commanding not only a full view of the Monongahela, but also the Alleghany river, and in the most centrical part for business of any kind, in the town of Pittsburgh. A kitchen garden 120 feet by 60, which was well dunged last spring, may be had with the above premises; also a field of 27 acres, delightfully situated on the bank of Alleghany, one mile from Pittsburgh, 20 acres of which may be immediately thrown into meadow, and by good management will produce at least 40 ton of hay yearly; these are acquisitions that but few tenements in Pittsburgh can command. The whole will be let on the most easy terms to an approved tenant. Also a neat Store with a small garden, opposite the new house of Messrs. Turnbull and Marmie, in Second-street, which will be made convenient, and also let on easy terms to an agreeable tenent. For terms apply to

A. FOWLER.

Pittsburgh, January 9, 1788.

N. B. Any Carpenter wanting empioy and will engage to finish a stair case, may apply to the subscriber.

TO BE SOLD,

A Plantation containing upwards of 300 acres of land, situate on Sawickly creek in Westmoreland county, about forty acres cleared, 12 of which is good meadow, and 30 or 40 acres more may be made; on which is the noted grist and saw mills called Perry's Mills, a good two story dwelling house, kitchen, barn and still house; it is a good place for a tavern or store, as the public roads leading from Bedford to Pittsburgh, from Ligonier to Simeral's ferry and to Greensburgh. Likewise one other plantation in the same county, containing about 300 acres, between 60 and 70 is the first rate bottom on the Monongahela river, 45 acres cleared, 25 of which is good timothy meadow, the upland is chiefly walnut, on it is a good merchant mill, within about 200 yards of the Monongahela river, now in order for making merchantable flour, a dwelling house and still house, and several other out houses, it is well situate for public business or transporting flour down the river; there is a ferry kept there, and public roads leading from it to Pittsburgh, which is 15 miles distant, to Washington, to Union Town in Fayette county, to Simeral and Budd's ferries on Yough. Patents, and good titles will be given for both. Also several other tracts, some improved and some unimproved. Any person inclining to purchase may know the terms by applying to John Perry at Braddock's Fields, or the subscriber on the premises.

JAMES PERRY.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

A PLANTATION on the waters of Chartiers creek, in Washington county, adjoining lands of James Farrel and others, is taken in execution and as the property of the executors of Thomas Cook deceased, and to be sold by the late sheriff. I do hereby warn all persons from purchasing this plantation at this sale, as no good title can be made thereto, the patent being in me, by a patent from the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

ROBERT M'GEE,

Head waters of Peter's and Chartier's creek, Washington County.

John & William Irwin,

Have just received at their New Store in Pittsburgh,

A LARGE and general assortment of Dry Goods and Groceries, which they will sell on the lowest terms for cash, peltry or country produce. No credit will be given to any person. Jan. 9 1788.

Just Published and to be Sold at the Printing Office, Pittsburgh, the

PITTSBURGH ALMANAC,

OR

WESTERN EPHEMERIS

For the Year of our Lord 1788.

Which may be had at the Printing Office, Pittsburgh, Wholesale and Retail, on the most reasonable Terms.

*** The calculations for this Almanac are made with the greatest exactness to answer the meridian of the Western Country.

SALT.

BEST Fine and Allum Salt to be sold for Cash, Wheat, Rye, or Barley, by Isaac Craig & Co. at their Distillery.

Pittsburg, Sept. 5, 1787.

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, living at the nine mile run, three CALVES, one supposed to be two years old next spring, the other two yearlings. The owner may have them again by proving property and paying charges.

THOMAS GIBSON.

Westmoreland County, Jan. 2, 1788.

John Acheson & Co.

HAVE removed their Store in Washington to Captain George M'Cormick's, where they are now opening a fresh Assortment of Goods, suitable to the season, which they will sell on reasonable terms for pork, whiskey, country linen, hemp, flax, all kinds of peltry, skins, &c.

Said company will open a store at Mr. John Baldwin's, on Mingo creek, about the 10th of January, 1788, where they will receive for goods, wheat, rye and all the abovementioned articles. Those who please to favor them with their custom, may depend on being supplied on the most reasonable terms.

All persons indebted to said company are desired to come in and settle off their accounts immediately.

Town of Washington, Dec. 29, 1787.

A SCHOOL,

IS opened at the House of Mr. M'NICKEL, in Front street, in which will be taught the Latin Language, Reading English Grammatically, Writing, and Arithmetic, by

THOMAS TOOSEY.

Pittsburgh, January 4, 1788.

N. B. An Evening School is also kept in the same House.

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N. B. Any Carpenter wanting employ and will engage to finish a staircase, may apply to the subscriber.

TO BE SOLD,

A Plantation containing upwards of 300 acres of land, situate on Sawickly creek in Westmoreland county, about forty acres cleared, 12 of which is good meadow, and 30 or 40 acres more may be made; on which is the no ed grist and saw mills called Perry's Mills, a good two story dwelling house, kitchen, barn and still house; it is a good place for a tavern or store, as the public roads leading from Bedford to Pittsburgh, from Ligonier to Simeral's ferry and to Greensburgh. Likewise one other plantation in the same county, containing about 300 acres, between 60 and 70 is the first rate bottom on the Monongahela river, 45 acres cleared, 25 of which is good timothy meadow, the upland is chiefly walnut, on it is a good merchant mill, within about 200 yards of the Monongahela river, now in order for making merchantable flour, a dwelling house and still house, and several other out houses, it is well situate for public business or transporting flour down the river; there is a ferry kept there, and public roads leading from it to Pittsburgh, which is 15 miles distant, to Washington, to Union Town in Fayette county, to Simeral and Budd's ferries on Yough. Patents and good titles will be given for both. Also several other tracts, some improved and some unimproved. Any person inclining to purchase may know the terms by applying to John Perry at Braddock's Fields; or the subscriber on the premises.

JAMES PERRY.

SHERIFF's SALE.

A PLANTATION on the waters of Chartiers creek, in Washington county, adjoining lands of James Farrel and others, is taken in execution as the property of the executors of Thomas Cook, deceased, and to be sold by the late sheriff. I do hereby warn all persons from purchasing this plantation at this sale, as no good title can be made thereon, the patent being in me, by a patent from the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

ROBERT M'GEE,

Head waters of Peter's and Chartier's creek Washington County.

John & William Irwin,

Have just received at their New Store in Pittsburgh, A LARGE and general assortment of Dry Goods and Groceries, which they will sell on the lowest terms for cash, peltry or country produce. No credit will be given to any person. jan. 9. 1788.

Just Published and to be Sold at the Printing Office Pittsburgh, the

PITTSBURGH ALMANAC,

OR

WESTERN EPHEMERIS.

For the Year of our Lord 1788.

Which may be had at the Printing Office, Pittsburgh, Wholesale and Retail, on the most reasonable Terms.

*** The calculations for this Almanac are made with the greatest exactness to answer the meridian of the Western Country.

SALT.

BEST Fine and Allum Salt to be sold for Cash, Wheat, Rye, or Barley, by Isaac Craig & Co. at their Distillery.

Pittsburg, Sept. 5, 1787.

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, living at the nine mile run, three CALVES, one supposed to be two years old next spring, the other two yearlings. The owner may have them again by proving property and paying charges.

THOMAS GIBSON.

Westmoreland County, Jan. 2, 1788.

John Acheson & Co.

HAVE removed their Store in Washington to Captain George M'Cormick's, where they are now opening a fresh Assortment of Goods, suitable to the season, which they will sell on reasonable terms for pork, whiskey, country linen, hemp, flax, all kinds of peltry, skins, &c.

Said company will open a store at Mr. John Baldwin's, on Mingo creek, about the 10th of January, 1788, where they will receive for goods, wheat, rye, and all the abovementioned articles. Those who please to favor them with their custom, may depend on being supplied on the most reasonable terms.

All persons indebted to said company are desired to come in and settle off their accounts immediately.

Town of Washington, Dec. 29, 1787.

A SCHOOL,

IS opened at the House of Mr. M'[illegible], in Front street, in which will be taught the Latin Language, Reading English Grammatically, Writing, and Arithmetic, by

THOM[illegible]EY.

Pittsburgh, January 4, 1788.

N. B. An Evening School is also kept at the same House.